



*"Believe in the MAGIC of the season!"*

**SELECT BOARD / TOWN MANAGER**- We have scheduled a special town meeting for Tuesday December 12, 2023 @ 5PM at the town office. The warrant includes one article that addresses amendments to the current Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. Amendments are also posted on our website @ [www.gouldsborotown.com](http://www.gouldsborotown.com).

We would like to welcome Mike Connors as our newly appointed Code Enforcement Officer. Mike is currently here in the office a few days a week. Mike has been working for the last two months in meeting the needs of our residents and contractors. As he transitions into the position, he seeks to utilize his varied work experiences to best meet the needs of our community. Whether working in healthcare, information technologies, facilities management, or as a contractor, Mike has and always enjoyed serving. Providing instruction and direction in common language has always been the most satisfying facet of his work. He firmly believes that strong relational connections and clear communications are the foundation of any successful collaboration and a good sense of humor helps too! While not at work, Mike can often be found working outside or solving a mechanical problem!

As you are aware, the Senior Property Tax Stabilization program that was in place during 2023 was repealed last summer and left most of you in a difficult position in regards to helping with relief on upcoming property tax payments. The State of ME has had another program for a few years called "**The Property Tax Fairness Credit**" that was eligible to senior Mainers earning up to only \$40,000 per year with a tax credit of \$1,500. The earning ceiling has been lifted in **2024 to \$80,000** but you must FILE a FEDERAL & STATE of ME income tax return in order to be eligible for the \$2,000 tax credit. The form to use: "**Schedule PTFC/STFC**" when you file your State of ME income tax return is not yet available from **Maine.gov** but I expect that it will be soon after the first of the new year. We will also have copies of the form here in the Town Office when it is available. If you have any questions about this tax credit program, please call the Assessor's Office on Tuesday or Wednesday when Pam is in the Office.

Another great team member we are happy to welcome is Wally Moore and working in the capacity of Road Commissioner. Wally served as a select board member for a few years and has been a life long resident here in Gouldsboro. We are thankful he is willing to help us at this time.

*BIG LOADS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE TRANSFER STATION AFTER 3:30PM.*

Scuttlebutt is Gouldsboro's newly published guide to life in our working waterfront community created by the Gouldsboro Shore Project with support from the Maine Coastal Program and private donors. *Scuttlebutt* welcomes new and prospective residents to Gouldsboro while describing what life here is like. For those who already live here, the 24-page booklet is a beautifully illustrated reminder about what makes Gouldsboro a special place. As *Scuttlebutt* says in its introduction, "**Gouldsboro's economy and character depend on sustaining a working waterfront rooted in an attentive, respectful relationship to the sea.**" You can pick up a copy of *Scuttlebutt* in the Town Office or download it from the Town website. Special thanks go to Gouldsboro Shore volunteers Pauline Angione, Susan Bierzychudek, Brett Binns, Chantal Jennings, Elin Poneman, and Vicki Rea, along with summer inter Ada Fisher, Shellfish Warden Mike Pinkham, and volunteer project manager Bill Zoellick.

**We will be offering Acadia Park passes beginning December 1, 2023. The passes will be \$35 each ~ half price of the annual fee of \$70.**

**LETTERS TO SANTA**- This year the Town Office will have a Mailbox for children to bring in a letter to Santa! Help your children fill out and color the attached paper and slide it into a self-addressed envelope with a stamp. Santa and his elves will write a letter back! Please bring the letters in no later than December 20, 2023 to be sure you receive a letter back!

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**- **\*ALL DOGS MUST BE REGISTERED BY DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>**. You can buy hunting and fishing licenses for **2024** starting **December 1<sup>st</sup>**, as well as state registered boat stickers. 2023 documented boat registrations are due by **December 31<sup>st</sup>**. 2024 Snowmobile stickers are now available.

**GOULDSBORO REC. COMMITTEE**- The Gouldsboro Rec. Committee will be hosting a Christmas Movie Night at the Gouldsboro Rec Center, on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The movie being shown is Elf and the movie starts at 5PM. Bring your camp chairs, and/or blankets and come join us for the evening. Popcorn and hot cocoa will be provided. You are also welcome to bring your favorite snacks. Happy Holidays from all of us here on the Gouldsboro Rec. Committee!!

**GOULDSBORO POLICE DEPT**- Please use caution on the roadways as frost and black ice begin to settle in. The Community Christmas Parade will be held on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. We have several floats already in attendance and are accepting more. If you wish to be in the parade, please be at Line-up at the Pound Road @ 3PM. The Parade route has changed to accommodate any walkers in the parade. The parade will travel from Pound Road to the Pickled Wrinkle parking area, and a brief Touch-A-Truck of Emergency Vehicles will be held in the PW parking lot. Me & Ben's "Comfort & Joy" Christmas Event will begin at 5PM. Santa will be there!!! Hot chocolate, live animals and much more...!

**HARBOR COMMITTEE**- A friendly reminder 2023-2024 mooring applications were due November 15<sup>th</sup>. The cost to file the mooring application is \$51. All residents that utilize a mooring in Gouldsboro waters are required to file a mooring permit with the Town Office as approved at Town Meeting June 2023.

**GOULDSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**- Tis the season to enjoy our town's heritage-- all year long-- with the GHS 2024 Calendar—bringing you "*Early West Gouldsboro – An Armchair Tour.*" Here you'll find twelve unique old-time views with an unfolding story of this quiet, lovely village, an early center of town and now a vital part of the Gouldsboro you've lived in. Only \$15 for sale at the Winter Harbor 5 & 10 and the Town Office.

**SCHOODIC FOOD PANTRY**- Schoodic Food Pantry opened just after Thanksgiving last year after ensuring the 35 families that counted on us at that time to supplement their food budgets had a bountiful Thanksgiving meal. One year later there are 108 Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor households (229 adults and children) hoping we will continue to provide what they need to enjoy a meal at the holidays and beyond. Your cash contributions can help us do that. If you are able to help, send a check to Schoodic Food Pantry, PO Box 173, Corea, ME 04624. We are a 501(c) 3 public charity, so your gift is tax deductible. If you would like to donate food items you may leave them at the Gouldsboro Town Office, Transfer Station, or at Winter Harbor Provisions.

**HARDY'S FRIENDS** - Hardy's Friends fills shelves at the Schoodic Food Pantry each week with dry and canned dog and cat food. Each month we help local families with many hundreds, and often thousands, of dollars in veterinary assistance that ensures treatment for their injured or sick family pets. Two weeks ago, we were able to loan the mother of a young boy who had recently lost his dad the \$460 she needed to have the boy's dog euthanized. He was able to be with his best pal at the end, and receive his ashes. His mom had already spent over \$400 for diagnosis and pain medication. She couldn't have done this for her son without assistance. You make these moments possible. If you would like to help, please send your tax-deductible donation to Hardy's Friends, PO Box 63, Prospect Harbor ME 04669.

**DORCAS LIBRARY**- Stop by to visit our annual Holiday Craft Sale, unique local handmade items perfect for the season! A big Thank-you to Richard Diehl for putting the lights on the community tree in front of the library - the most beautiful holiday lights in the area would not happen without Richard. Thank you to John Korth for all his volunteer work at Dorcas. The writers meet Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 12PM. Knitting with Cyndi will be Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at 2PM. Story Hour with Liz will be Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:15AM. The library will be closed December 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Happy Holidays!

**VETERAN'S COMMITTEE**- The Gouldsboro Veteran's Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 1PM at the Town Office meeting room. There will be a brief meeting followed by a holiday celebration with goodies. Come join us for the last meeting of 2023. Please remember to visit Anderson's Hardware Store to pick up a tag from the Veteran Angel Tree. Show your appreciation to our local veterans by giving one of them a gift. There will be many deserving veterans' wishes on the tree. The unwrapped gifts and the identifying tag must be returned to Anderson's by December 18<sup>th</sup> to ensure delivery before Christmas. The committee will not be meeting again until April 2024. We wish everyone a joyous holiday season! The committee thanks everyone who attended and those that helped to make the Vets dinner a success!

**PENINSULA PTA**- The Peninsula School Parent Teacher Association will be hosting a Holiday Craft Fair and Auction on Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> from 4-7PM with mystery auction closing at 6:30PM in the Winter Harbor Gym. Table rentals will

be \$30- Reserve your spot now! Please contact Gabby Grant at 664-4651 or by email [gabbyu14@ymail.com](mailto:gabbyu14@ymail.com) to register. Thank you for the PAW-SOME support!

**HATS & MITTEN REQUEST-** Our children at the Peninsula School would be thrilled to receive warm mittens and hats during the holidays. The school holiday parties will be during the week of December 18<sup>th</sup>. It would be terrific to have our community contribute to the spirit of the giving season with handmade or purchased mittens and hats. Cyndi Godwin and friends are creating with this need in mind at the Dorcas Library a few more times as the holidays approach. Open for all who wish to join in. Contact the library (963-4027) for days and times to participate. Please contact Nancy Hill by email [nancyjhill23@outlook.com](mailto:nancyjhill23@outlook.com) or text 303-918-4670 for pick-up, or you may deliver to the Gouldsboro Town Office. It would be appreciated if you note your name with all items dropped off so that a child, classes, or Nancy, can thank you specifically for these seasonal treats.

**ACADIAN COMMUNITY WOMAN’S CLUB-** The Acadian Community Woman’s Club’s—ANNUAL Chili, Chowder, and SOUP-ER Supper will be held on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30-6:30PM at the Winter Harbor Masonic Hall, 29 School Street. There will be a variety of homemade chilis, chowders, soups, cornbread, rolls and desserts. Adults: \$12 — Kids \$8. Proceeds will benefit the Community Aid Fund. Also, this month—the ACWC’s annual Angel Tree will be up the first week in December at the Pickled Wrinkle. Come select a tag to purchase an item to help a local family in need—please drop off donated items to the Pickled Wrinkle by Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

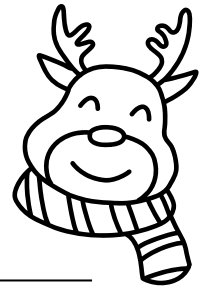
<b>CODE ENFORCEMENT- <i>New building permits issued</i></b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>PROJECT TYPE</b>
Rand Beattie	286 Main Street	Shed Addition
Andrew Ray	259 Shark Cove Road	House Demo
Jacob Knowles	30 Charles Lane	Cabin Demo/Construction
John Bernardin	220 Route One	Rooftop Solar Array

**RSU 24-** We have formally signed the Change Order for the domestic water cistern project. The tank and pump house that will support the domestic water will be located in the vicinity of the fire sprinkler cistern between the Punkinville Road and the school. Nickerson O'Day will be the general contractor and the estimated completion target is April or May, depending on the weather. The major part of the remaining work on the overall contract is the ball fields. We will be working through that part of the contract in the spring as the ground thaws and the grass grows. With the winter weather approaching, please know that cancellation notifications will be made to families using our robocall and text message notification system(s). General notification will be put on our Facebook Page and sent to the local television and radio stations. For those interested in the work of the RSU Board of Directors, the full Board meetings and subcommittee meetings are posted on our website ([www.rsu24.org](http://www.rsu24.org)). It is hard to believe that we are already beginning the budget process for fiscal year 2025. At this point, we are establishing internal dates and working through the logistical pieces in order to complete the process in a timely fashion. Please note that the budget workshops will take place on Wednesday evenings and the following dates have been established for this work: January 31<sup>st</sup>, February 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, and March 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. At each meeting, specific components of our school budget will be presented for the Budget and Finance Committee consideration. The meetings are held at the District Services Facility and the public is welcome to participate. For our parents, the last day of school before December vacation will be December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students will return Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**CALENDAR OF TOWN EVENTS AND MEETINGS FOR DECEMBER**

DECEMBER 5 <sup>th</sup>	TUESDAY	PLANNING BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	6PM
DECEMBER 7 <sup>th</sup>	THURSDAY	SELECT BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM
DECEMBER 12 <sup>th</sup>	TUESDAY	SPECIAL TOWN MEETING @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM
DECEMBER 14 <sup>th</sup>	THURSDAY	*TOWN OFFICE WILL BE CLOSING EARLY FOR AN EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON*	1PM
DECEMBER 19 <sup>th</sup>	TUESDAY	PLANNING BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	6PM
DECEMBER 21 <sup>st</sup>	THURSDAY	SELECT BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM
DECEMBER 25 <sup>th</sup>	MONDAY	*TOWN OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY*	ALL DAY

# Dear Santa



MY NAME IS \_\_\_\_\_

I AM \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS OLD

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN...  Very good



Not so good at times



THIS YEAR I WANT TO ASK FOR:

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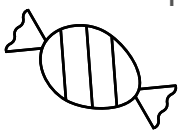
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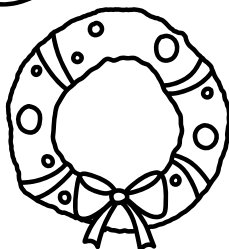
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FROM, \_\_\_\_\_



Color me!



Turn in by 12/20/2023